

Serial No. 09/866,714
Docket No. 2000P163824

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REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment is proposed because it is believed to place the application in condition for immediate allowance, does not raise any new issues requiring further search, or alternatively, narrows the issues on appeal.

Claims 1-12 and 14 are presently pending in this application. Claim 13 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Independent claims 6 and 7 have been amended merely to incorporate the features of allowable claims 13 and 14, respectively, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-5 and 8-14 are allowed.

With respect to the prior art rejection, claims 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Song (U.S. Patent No. 6,327,471).

As mentioned above, independent claim 6 is amended to incorporate the features of allowable claim 13 (which correspondingly is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, as mentioned above).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 6 is in condition for immediate allowance and respectfully requests the same.

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Also, as mentioned above, independent claim 7 is amended to incorporate the features of allowable claim 14.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 7 is in condition for immediate allowance and respectfully requests the same.

Applicant notes that a Petition to Withdraw Finality of Rejection as Premature was filed on June 29, 2004, in accordance with which Applicant respectfully requests that the finality of the present Office Action be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-12 and 14, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.


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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.


Respectfully Submitted,

Date: July 27, 2004
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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I certify that I transmitted the enclosed Amendment under 37 CFR §1.116 to Examiner Congvan Tran via facsimile to (703) 872-9306 on July 27, 2004.


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